

What is claimed is:

1. A method for use by a portable processing device for accessing patient record information, comprising the steps of:

receiving user entered information identifying at least one patient record to be acquired and a content portion of a patient record to be acquired;

generating a URL link for accessing a patient record repository, said generated URL link including an address of said repository and containing fields incorporating said information identifying said content portion and said patient record;

communicating said generated URL link to an application used for accessing said repository; and

receiving said identified patient record content portion in response to said communication.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said receiving step also includes,

receiving information identifying a desired format for said patient record to be acquired.

3. A method according to claim 1, including the step of,

receiving configuration information determining at least one of, (a) a URL of a patient record repository, (b) a proxy server address, (c) user logon information, (d) lists of patients to be accessed, (e) content type of a patient record and (f) format of a patient record.

4. A method according to claim 1, including the step of

generating a notification indication for display to a user indicating said identified patient record content portion has been received.

5. A method according to claim 1, wherein

said received patient record content portion comprises HTML web page representative information.

6. In a system including a patient record repository, a method for communicating with a portable processing device for accessing patient record information, comprising the steps of:

receiving URL link data fields containing information identifying a patient record and a content portion of said patient record;

deriving said information identifying a patient record and a content portion of said patient record information from said URL link data fields;

searching said patient record repository to locate said identified patient record content portion;

communicating said located patient record content portion to a portable processing device.

7. A method for use by a portable processing device for providing updated patient record information to a patient record information repository, comprising the steps of:

initiating display of a data collection page for a patient;

storing updated patient record information acquired by user data entry via said data collection page;

generating a URL link including an address of said repository and containing fields incorporating said updated patient record information and information identifying a patient record; and

communicating said updated patient record information to said information repository at said address in response to user selection of a displayed menu icon.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein

said step of communicating said updated patient record information comprises communicating said updated patient record information via said URL data field to said information repository.

9. A method according to claim 8, including the step of identifying updated patient record information different from information previously communicated to said information repository; and wherein said step of communicating said updated patient record information comprises communicating said different updated patient record information via said URL data field to said information repository.

10. A method according to claim 7, wherein said data collection page comprises an HTML page.

11. A method according to claim 7, including the step of time-stamping updated patient record information acquired by user data entry via said data collection page.

12. A method according to claim 11, wherein said step of storing updated patient record information comprises storing time-stamped updated patient record information.

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein said step of communicating said updated patient record information comprises communicating said time-stamped updated patient record information.

14. A method according to claim 7, including the step of communicating said identified updated data collection page by Email to a remote application in response to user selection of a displayed menu icon.

15. A method according to claim 7, including the step of providing a menu supporting user customization of a data collection page for a particular patient.

16. A method according to claim 7, including the step of initiating display of a patient record contents menu comprising a plurality of links to a corresponding plurality of portions of a patient record including a link to a patient data collection page in response to user selection of a link to said patient record.

17. In a system including a patient record repository, a method for communicating with a portable processing device for accessing patient record information, comprising the steps of:

receiving URL data fields incorporating updated patient record information and patient record identification information;

deriving said patient record identification information and said updated patient record information from said URL link data fields; and

storing said updated patient record information in a record identified by said patient record identification information.

18. A method for use by a portable processing device for providing updated patient record information to a patient record information repository, comprising the steps of:

initiating display of a data collection page for a patient including data previously recorded for said patient;

storing updated patient record information including additions and deletions to said previously recorded data acquired by user data entry via said data collection page;

generating a URL link including an address of said repository and containing fields incorporating said updated patient record information and information identifying a patient record; and

communicating URL data fields including said updated patient record information to said information repository at said address in response to user selection of a displayed menu icon.

19. A method according to claim 18, including the step of identifying updated patient record information not previously communicated to said information repository, and wherein said communicating step comprises

communicating URL data fields including said identified updated patient record information not previously communicated to said information repository.

20. A method according to claim 18, including the step of time-stamping updated patient record information acquired by user data entry via said data collection page.

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